



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A method for processing two or more
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,
comprising the steps of:

4 | identifying from at least one database a set of ~~one or more~~
attributes ~~of for the~~ email messages;

6 | establishing a transmission criteria for selecting the
email messages for transmission based on the ~~said set of~~
8 | attributes ~~of for the~~ email messages;

10 | determining the ~~set of attributes~~ at least one attribute for
to assign to each of the email messages selected from said set
of attributes;

12 | organizing the email messages according to the ~~set of~~
attributes ~~for said~~ at least one attribute assigned to each of
14 | the email messages;

16 | storing the ~~said~~ organized email messages on a shared
storage device so that each of the email messages is stored in a
file that contains only email messages with a same said at least
18 | one attribute, wherein each said file has a file name that
indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the
20 | email messages in said file name; and

22 | selecting the ~~said~~ organized email messages by said file
names from the ~~a single queue in said shared storage device for~~
transmission according to the ~~said transmission~~ criteria.

2. (**Currently Amended**) A method according the claim 1, in which
2 | the ~~said set of one or more attributes comprises~~ is selected
from the ~~group consisting at least a one of~~:-

4 | ~~the a destination address of the message email messages, the a~~
priority of the ~~message email messages, the an estimated speed~~
6 | ~~of the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of the~~
~~said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~
8 | ~~message email messages, the a time set of said at least one~~
~~attribute attributes~~ is determined for the ~~message email~~
10 | ~~messages, and the a time at which the message email messages~~
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 1, in which
2 | ~~the said set of one or more attributes comprises is selected~~
~~from the group consisting at least a one of:~~

4 | ~~the a priority of the message email messages, the an estimated~~
speed of ~~the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of~~
6 | ~~the said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~
~~message email messages, the a time set of attributes said at~~
8 | ~~least one attribute~~ is determined for the ~~message email~~
~~messages, and the a time at which the message email messages~~
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 41, in which
2 | each said file contains no more than a predetermined number of
the email messages.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A system for processing two or more
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,
~~comprised of~~ comprising:

4 | a processor that determines ~~one or more~~ from at least one
database a set of attributes for ~~each of the~~ email messages and

organizes the email messages according to ~~the attributes of~~ at least one attribute assigned to each of the message email messages;

a shared storage device that stores ~~the said~~ organized email messages until ~~the said~~ organized email messages are selected for transmission, wherein each of the email messages is stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same said at least one attribute, and each said file has a file name that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the email messages in said file name; and

a selector that selects ~~the said~~ organized email messages from ~~the a~~ single queue in said shared storage device by said file names for transmission according to a transmission criteria based on ~~the attributes of~~ said set of attributes for the email messages.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 7, in which ~~the said~~ set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting of~~ at least a one of-:

~~the a~~ destination address of the message email messages, ~~the a~~ priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of the said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the message email messages, ~~the a~~ time ~~the set of attributes said at least one attribute~~ is determined for the message email messages, and ~~the a~~ time at which the message email messages must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

9. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 7, in which ~~the said~~ set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting of~~ at least a one of-:

~~the a~~ priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of

6 | ~~the said~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the
8 | ~~message email messages, the a time set of attributes~~ said at
10 | ~~least one attribute~~ is determined for the ~~message email~~
~~messages, and the a time at which the message email messages~~
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

10. (Canceled)

2 | 11. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 107, in
which each said file contains no more than a predetermined
number of the email messages.

12. (Canceled)

2 | 13. (Currently Amended) A method for organizing two or more
email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,
comprising:

4 | identifying from at least one database a set of ~~one or more~~
~~attributes of for the~~ email messages;

6 | determining ~~the attributes~~ at least one attribute ~~for to~~
assign to each of the email messages selected from said set of
8 | attributes;

10 | organizing the email messages according to ~~the attributes~~
~~of~~ said at least one attribute assigned to each of the message
email messages; and

12 | storing ~~the said~~ organized email messages on a shared
storage device so that each of the email messages is stored in a
14 | file that contains only email messages with a same said at least
one attribute, wherein each said file has a file name that
16 | indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the
email messages in said file name.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 13, in
2 | which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of-:
4 | ~~the~~ a destination address of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a
priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated speed
6 | of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of the
said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the
8 | ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~the set of attributes~~ said at
least one attribute is determined for the ~~message~~ email
10 | messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 13, in
2 | which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of-:
4 | ~~the~~ a priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated
speed of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of
6 | ~~the~~ said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the
message email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~set of attributes~~ said at
8 | least one attribute is determined for the ~~message~~ email
messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~13, in
2 | which each said file contains no more than a predetermined
number of the email messages.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the sequence
of two or more email messages for transmission to one or more
recipients, comprising the steps of:

establishing a transmission criteria for selecting the
email messages ~~from~~ organized on a shared storage device for
transmission based on a set of ~~one or more~~ attributes ~~of~~ for the
email messages derived from at least one database, said
organized email messages organized according to at least one
attribute selected from said set of attributes and assigned to
each of the email messages so that each of the email messages is
stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same
said at least one attribute, wherein each said file has a file
name that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute
for the email messages in said file name; and

selecting ~~the~~ said organized email messages by said file
names from the ~~a single queue in said shared storage device~~ for
transmission according to ~~the~~ said transmission criteria.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 19, in
which ~~the~~ said set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is~~
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of:-

~~the~~ a destination address of the message email messages, the ~~a~~
priority of the message email messages, the ~~an~~ estimated speed
~~of the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, the ~~a~~ status of the
said receiving message transfer agent, the ~~a~~ format of the
message email messages, the ~~a~~ time the set of attributes said at
least one attribute is determined for the message email
messages, and the ~~a~~ time at which the message email messages
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 19, in
which ~~the~~ said set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is~~
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of:-

4 | ~~the a priority of the message_email messages, the an estimated~~
| ~~speed of the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of~~
6 | ~~the said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~
| ~~message_email messages, the a time set of attributessaid at~~
8 | least one attribute is determined for the message_email
| messages, and the a time at which the message_email messages
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22¹⁹, in
2 | which each said file contains no more than a predetermined
| number of the email messages.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A system for organizing two or more
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,
| comprising:

4 | a processor that determines ~~one or more~~ from at least one
| database a set of attributes for each of the email messages and
6 | organizes the email messages according to ~~the attributes of at~~
| least one attribute assigned to each of the message_email
8 | messages; and

10 | a shared storage device that stores ~~the said~~ organized
| email messages until ~~the said~~ organized email messages are
12 | selected for transmission, wherein each of the email messages is
| stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same
14 | said at least one attribute, and each said file has a file name
| that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for
| the email messages in said file name.

26. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 25, in
2 which ~~the said set of one or more attributes comprises is~~
~~selected from the group consisting at least a one of-:~~
4 ~~the a destination address of the message email messages, the a~~
priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated speed
6 of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of the
said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the
8 message email messages, ~~the a time the set of attributes said at~~
least one attribute is determined for the message email
10 messages, and ~~the a~~ time at which the message email messages
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

27. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 25, in
2 which ~~the said set of one or more attributes comprises is~~
~~selected from the group consisting at least a one of-:~~
4 ~~the a~~ priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated
speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of
6 ~~the said~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the
message email messages, ~~the a time set of attributes said at~~
8 least one attribute is determined for the message email
messages, and ~~the a~~ time at which the message email messages
10 must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~28~~25, in
2 which each said file contains no more than a predetermined
number of the email messages.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A system for determining the sequence
of two or more email messages for transmission to one or more
recipients, comprising:

a selector that selects the email messages from a shared
storage device for transmission according to a transmission
criteria based on a set of attributes for the email messages
derived from at least one database, wherein at least one or more
attribute selected from set of attributes is assigned to each of
the email messages, wherein each of the email messages is stored
in a file that contains only email messages with a same said at
least one attribute, and each said file has a file name that
indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the
email messages in said file name.

32. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 31, in
which ~~the set of one or more attributes~~ said set of attributes
comprises is selected from the group consisting at least a one
of-:

~~the a destination address of the message email messages, the a~~
~~priority of the message email messages, the an estimated speed~~
~~of the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of the~~
~~said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~
~~message email messages, the a time the set of attributes said at~~
~~least one attribute is determined for the message email~~
~~messages, and the a time at which the message email messages~~
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

33. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 31, in
which ~~the said set of one or more attributes~~ comprises is
selected from the group consisting at least a one of-:

~~the a priority of the message email messages, the an estimated~~
~~speed of the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of~~
~~the said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~

8 | message_email messages, ~~the a time set of attributes~~said at
10 | least one attribute is determined for the message_email
| messages, and ~~the a time~~ at which the message_email messages
| must be transmitted to ~~its~~their recipients.

34. (Canceled)

2 | 35. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 3431, in
| which each said file contains no more than a predetermined
| number of the email messages.

36. (Canceled)